

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) An automotive vehicle roof system comprising:
 - a pair of stationary side rails;
 - a first roof panel being substantially rigid and movably coupled to the rails;
 - a back window movably coupled to the rails;
 - a storage compartment positioned adjacent to an end of each of the pair of stationary side rails, the first roof panel being slidable from a closed and functional position to an opened position located in the storage compartment, the back window being movable from a closed and functional position to an opened position located in the storage compartment;
 - a covering panel movable from a closed position covering the storage compartment to an opened position operable to allow access of the first roof panel and the back window into the storage compartment; and
 - at least a second roof panel movably coupled to the rails and being slidable from a closed position located between the first roof panel and the back window to an opened position located in the storage compartment;
 - the first roof panel operably engaging the second roof panel when the first roof panel is retracted and causing the second roof panel to move into and out of the storage compartment substantially simultaneous with the first roof panel;

the back window operably moving from its closed position to its opened position without requiring simultaneous movement of the first roof panel; and

the covering panel being movable without requiring movement of all of the roof panels when the roof panels are in their opened positions;

wherein the covering panel is an automatically movable, rigid tonneau cover located forward of a movable deck lid.

2. (original) The system according to Claim 1, further comprising:

at least one elongated track mounted to the pair of stationary side rails;

a first mechanism slidably coupling the first roof panel to the at least one elongated track; and

a second mechanism slidably coupling the second roof panel to the at least one elongated track.

3. (original) The system according to Claim 2, further comprising:

an electromagnetic device;

a third mechanism including a four-bar linkage slidably coupling the back window to the at least one elongated track; and

an elongated cable operably driven by the electromagnetic device, the cable being attached to the third mechanism in order to move the back window in response to energization of the electromagnetic device.

4. (original) The system according to Claim 1 wherein the first roof panel is rearwardly slidable from a generally inclined venting position to a spoiler position overlapping above the second roof panel when the second roof panel is substantially located in its closed position.

5.-14. (cancelled).

15. (original) The roof system according to Claim 1 [[14]], further comprising:

a first actuator; and

a first continuous cable operably coupled between the first actuator and the first roof panel, the first continuous cable extending from the first actuator to the first roof panel and back to the first actuator such that the first roof panel may be actuated solely using a pulling force.

16.-21. (cancelled).

22. (original) An automotive vehicle roof system comprising:

a support structure;

a storage compartment;

a back window movably coupled to the support structure, the back window being movable from a closed and functional position to an opened position located in the storage compartment, the back window being made of a generally rigid transparent material;

a covering panel movable from a closed position covering the storage compartment to an opened position operable to allow access of the back window into the storage compartment; and

a sealing member directly fixed to the back window,

wherein the back window is adjacent the covering panel when the back window is in the closed and functional position such that the sealing member engages the covering panel to define a sealing engagement.

23. (original) The automotive vehicle roof system according to Claim 22, further comprising:

a first roof panel movably coupled to the support structure, the first roof panel being substantially rigid and slidable from a closed and functional position to an opened position located in the storage compartment; and

a second roof panel movably coupled to the support structure, the second roof panel being substantially rigid, separate from the first roof panel, and slidable from a closed position located between the first roof panel and the back window to an opened position located in the storage compartment.

24. (original) The automotive vehicle roof system according to Claim 23 wherein said second roof panel is only movably in response to movement of said first roof panel.

25. (original) The automotive vehicle roof system according to Claim 23 wherein the first roof panel is rearwardly slidable from a generally inclined venting position to a spoiler position overlapping above the second roof panel when the second roof panel is substantially located in its closed position

26. (previously presented) The automotive vehicle roof system according to Claim 23, further comprising:

a seal member disposed between the first roof panel and the second roof panel for sealingly engaging the first roof panel and the second roof panel, the seal member having an integrally formed drain trough.

27. (original) The automotive vehicle roof system according to Claim 22 wherein the sealing member is a bulb seal.

28. (original) The automotive vehicle roof system according to Claim 22 wherein the covering panel is a tonneau cover.

29. (original) The automotive vehicle roof system according to Claim 22 wherein said support structure is at least one stationary side rail.

30. (new) The system of Claim 1, further comprising a first electric motor operably moving the first roof panel and a second electric motor operably moving the back window, the electric motors always being located below a vehicular beltline.

31. (new) The automotive vehicle roof system according to Claim 22 further comprising:

a first roof panel movable from a first position to a second position; and

a first electric motor operably moving the first roof panel and a second electric motor operably moving the back window, the electric motors always being located below a vehicular beltline.